A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Tuesday, November 27. 1711.

THE Subject of this being a Digreſſion from the Courſe of our Story, yet I hope may not be uſeleſs; nothing is more evident, than that whether Whig or Tory, Moderation is our great want in this Nation; I wiſh both Sides more of it, before they learn it by their mutual Diſaſters; for Extremities are the only Things which can deſtroy us.

I cannot but wonder ſometimes, when I obſerve the Pains unhappy Men take, for want, *partly*, of Foreſight, but *eſpecially* of Principles, to weaken and overthrow that very Party they eſpouſe——This Obſervation of mine occurrs to me, upon the occaſion of the new Diſorders which have happened in ſeveral Parts of *England*, about Magiſtrates, Parſons, Members of Parliament, Aldermen, *&c.* as at *Leverpool*, *Plymouth*, the City of *Coventry*, *&c.* of which we have Accounts in the *Poſt-Boy* and other Papers, thereby Aſſiſtant to the Ruin of the Party they eſpouſe.

And here, by the Way, I muſt blame our People alſo on that particular Occaſion, who let fly their lower Tire, *as the Seamen call it*, at the Authors of the *Suplement*, *Poſt-Boy*, and other Papers, and that charge them with Publiſhing falſe Stories, ſcandalous Remarks, *&c.* I think they ſhould rather

rather think themſelves oblig'd to the Men, and thank them for giving them Opportunity to expoſe the Party they eſpouſe, by making, *1ſt.* The Truth of Fact appear; and *2dly.* The Guilt and poor Shifts of a Party appear, who make Lies their Refuge, and fly to Slander and Forgery to ſupport their Cauſe; Does not every Forgery and Falſity undermine the Honour, the Character, and the Intereſt of the Party that make uſe of them? Truth is the Glorious Support of itſelf, and relating it, is an Honour, not to Him that makes it publick only, but to the Cauſe it relates to —— Wherefore we have nothing to do with the Relator of a High-Flying Sham, the effect of *October* Artifices, and the unhappy Impolitick Support of a Tottering Cauſe, which helps it down inſtead of holding it up —— The Buſineſs is, to let the World ſee the Truth, and it leads them by Conſequence to reproach the Contrivers of the Sham, as a People who have no other Way to keep their Cauſe alive, but by the Aſſiſtance of the Devil, and the mean Reſort of Fiction and Forgery.

In this I believe, the Authors, they are ſo angry with, ſo far from Injuring the moderate Party in this Nation, that if they were to hire them, and give them a Penſion of 500 *l. per Ann.* they could not oblige them to do more Service, and I firmly believe, they have been a means of opening more Men's Eyes, and bringing more Mad-Men to their Reaſon in the publick Affairs; in ſhort, that they have made more High-Flyers turn Whigs, ſince this new-faſhion'd Way of Writing, than all the Writers in the Town; they have vented the Scandal, and laid open the Nakedneſs and Filthineſs of the Party, more than any of their Enemies could do.

When they tell a falſe, ridiculous, fulſome Story for them; when they give the Title of Pious, Learned and Sober, to a wild, rakiſh, debauch'd Clergyman; when they call *A*—— Wiſe, *B*—— Moderate, *C*—— Loyal; when they talk of the Temper of *D*——, the Learning of *E*——, and the Conduct of *F*——; can any Man write a keener Satyr upon them? Is it not *cutting their Garments off by their Buttocks*, as *Hanun* did by *David*'s Ambaſſadors, I *Chron.* 19. 4. *And leading them about Street to ſhew their Nakedneſs*?——If ever you will do the Whigs a Service, Gentlemen, let thoſe High-Flying Authors go on; encourage them, clap them on the back, for *bona fide* they do the Whigs more Service, than all the *Obſervators*, *Reviews*, or Writers in the Town can do.

All we have to do is this; when they tell a falſe Story, let us tell the Truth of it; when they ſhew the wrong ſide of a Caſe, let us ſhew the right ſide —— When they ſpeak by Hear-ſay, *and perhaps without that too*, let us ſpeak by Evidence and undoubted Teſtimony —— And then let Truth alone, to make its Way into the general Opinion of Mankind; the Irreſiſtible force of Truth is ſuch, that by a ſecret Penetrating Quality, it enters imperceivably into the Minds of Men, and the never-failing Conſequence is this, that it depoſes Falſhood, and caſts it out with ſuch a Contempt, as always tends to the Confuſion of its Authors, like the Conviction upon the King of *Babylon*, when he had thrown the Prophet to the Lions, which made him turn upon his falſe Accuſers, and throw them in after him. *Dan.* 6. 24.

This is ſo natural a Conſequence, and ſo conſtantly the Event of the Deluſions which Men Attempt to put upon the People, that nothing is ſo fatal to the Contrivers; this Ruin'd the Authors of the late Arbitrary Reigns, and help'd more to Depoſe King *James*, than all that ever the Friends of the Revolution could have done —— Nay, the Whigs could never have brought it to paſs; King *James* pull'd himſelf down with his own Hands; the *Non-Reſiſtance* Men of thoſe Days did more to deſtroy themſelves, than ever the Whigs could do —— When King *James* ſet up for Popery, and Books were daily written to make Popery Familiar to us, pretending Popery was miſrepreſented, and the Devil was not ſo black as he was Painted; What was the Conſequence? —— This open'd the Eyes of the People; till

till then they would never believe, that ever Popery was in the Design, that ever King *James* would Attempt it, that all the Vows and Promises would be broke by *James* the Just; nothing could beat this into the Heads of the People, till the *Papists* and their Emissaries began to Print ——— All the Whigs could say was laugh'd at, Ridicul'd, and they call'd Lying and Disloyal, Factious, and all the Language of the present Times— All that were for Excluding a Popish Prince, were call'd *Presbyterians*, as all that Dispute the Doctrine of *Non-Resistance* are now; The *Right Line* was the *Shiboleth* of the Tories, as *Hereditary-Right* has been now ——— And all went on currently; *Monmouth* and *Argyle* were Beheaded, his Adherents Butcher'd, and the People glutted with Blood in both Kingdoms; and for a Whig to say a Word against all this, was the Effect of *Presbyterian*, *Republican*, *Antimonarchical*, *Anabaptistical* Principles, *and the like*, just as it is now.

But as soon as ever the Party began to print, began to Argue for Popery and Tyranny, what then? *They did the Work presently*; we might have writ our Hearts out, and printed till Doomsday, nothing could do the Work— Till the Tory Party and Popish Party did it for us——— They open'd the People's Eyes immediately—— When they Pleaded to give up the Laws, and Argued to Sacrifize Religion and Liberty to the Tyranny of the Prince; Represented Popery favourably, and thought to work upon the People——— The Light shone in at the Gaps they open'd, and Truth made its Way into the Minds of the People by the very natural Operation of the Absurdity they went about to impose upon them ——And thus the Tory, Popish, and Non-Resistance Errors, brought the Revolution upon its Authors by their own Agency.

And just thus it will be again, if the Writers for Tory, High-Flying Madness, may but have their full swing; therefore, pray Gentlemen, let them have their full swing, I beseech ye.

As this is spoken for the publick Instruction, so I cannot but apply it to the particular Cases before us, and for Instance, that of the City of *Coventry* among the rest —— And I wonder the Citizens of *Coventry* should forget how they obtain'd Peace and Victory over the Enemies of the Nation but a few Years ago———Was it not by the Fury of the Mad-Men that now begin to play the Second Part to the same Tune?

Did not their Mobbing, their Ribting, their Beating the Magistrates, Resisting the Queen's Majesty's Authority, and Rebelling against the Government, did not this Ruin them? —— When her Majesty granted her Royal Letter, sent down by an Honourable Person, now in the highest Post of Authority, to let them know how she Resented their Behaviour, and to Command them to keep the Peace, and to proceed to their Elections Legally and Peaceably— What was the Answer of the Gentlemen there, who now call themselves Loyal? Did they not take Arms against the Magistrates, rise in Rebellion against the Queen, wound the Mayor, her Majesty's Representative, beating the Teeth out of his Head, and leaving him bleeding in the Street?—*Brave Non-Resistance!* And did they not enquire for her Majesty's Messenger who brought her Royal Order, and read it at their Cross, and Threaten to Murther him? All this, and more I am able to prove upon this Non-Resisting Party.

And what was the Consequence?——— Why, the Ruin of their Cause, Interest, and Party in that City; what else could be the Event of such Doings?——They were Prosecuted, found Guilty, their Mob and Rebellious Election declar'd Void, themselves Sentenc'd, Fin'd, *&c.* And in short, us'd only with more Mercy than they had Merit.

And as now they are setting up for the same Measures, and running on to the same Illegal, Riotous, and unsufferable Behaviour——— A small deal of Witchcraft will foretell their Fate ——— Let them alone, Gentlemen, and they will Ruin themselves,

or

or if you will take it in a courser Phraſe, *give them Rope enough*, &c.

As to the Caſe as their Authors have related it — Let them Boaſt and Impoſe upon the World, I have nothing to ſay to their Relation ——— Only the TRUE STATE of the Caſe may be uſeful to be made publick, which I have receiv'd in a Letter—Let Truth alone to work its Way, and let the two Accounts ſtand one againſt another, that thoſe who are not willing to be deceiv'd may be undeceiv'd.

*** Note, *The Letter being too long for this Paper, the Printer was oblig'd to leave it out, And promiſes it in our next.*

ERRATA:

REVIEW N° 101. pag. 406. l. 8. r. *two Principalities*; Suabia, *where he has many under one Title*, &c. Review N° 102. p. 410. col. 2. l. 11. for *mas* r. *was*; p. 411. col. 1. l. 4. for *innumeable*, r. *innumerable*; ibid col. 2. l. 7. for *Weſterdalt*, r. *Weſterwalt*. Review N. 103. p. 415. col. 1. dele *talk*.

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WHEREAS true *French* Brandy is hardly to be got in London, unmix'd, at any Price; this is to inform, that a Merchant having ſome very fine by him left undiſpos'd of, old mellow, and right Brandy, that coſt 15 s. 3 d. a Gallon at firſt Hand ſome Time ago, has caus'd ſome of it to be put up in Quart and Pint Bottles, at 5s. and 2 s. 6 d. Bottles and all; each ſeal'd with his own Seal, to prevent any from being impos'd upon, *viz.* 2 Fleurs de Lys in a Pale, a Half-Moon for the Creſt. He is not willing, as ſome have done, to expoſe himſelf in this publick Way, and yet deſirous Gentlemen who will go to a Price may have it; and to conceal himſelf at preſent will not ſo diſpoſe of it at his own Houſe, but hath put it in a Cellar under Mr. Hugea's, Peruke maker, in George-Yard, Lombard-ſtreet; and Mr. Smith at the Poſt-Houſe in Ruſſel-ſtreet, Covent-Garden, who will deliver it out to any one that comes. It may be depended on to be good, and anſwer the Character fully.

There are 2 or 3 that have lately taken Cellars, pretending to ſell at 12 s. 6 d. a Gallon; I affirm it is not right, for I'll give 16 s. 3 d. a Gallon, for ſuch as is above deſcribed; and if Coffee-Houſes and publick Houſes will buy ſuch for Cheapneſs, ſuch Gentlemen muſt drink they know where to have other and not be Cheated, if they will go to the Price.

Printed for and ſold by *John Baker* at the *Black-Boy*, in *Pater-Noſter-Row*. 1711.